

**In the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph under "Field of the Invention" with:

This invention relates to refractory compositions. ~~More particularly,~~ ~~†~~ This invention relates to magnesia-based refractory compositions useful in maintenance gunning of metallurgical vessels, in ramming mixtures, in castable refractories, and in basic refractory brick. ~~Most particularly,~~ ~~†~~ This invention relates to refractory compositions, especially gunning mixtures, which are chemically adhered by means of a binder system having high temperature hot strength.